Quarterly Population Report

Second Quarter 2016

Record Numbers of Immigrants Boost Growth[1]

Alberta's second quarter population growth was boosted by immigrant landings and robust natural increase, which offset continuing net outflows of interprovincial migrants and non-permanent residents.

As of July 1st the province's population was an estimated 4,252,879, an increase of about 19,000 over the second quarter. Growth was similar to the same quarter last year, and comparable to 2010, during the province's last economic downturn. Alberta's growth has slowed dramatically; this quarter's growth of 0.45% was less than half that registered in the same quarter of 2013.

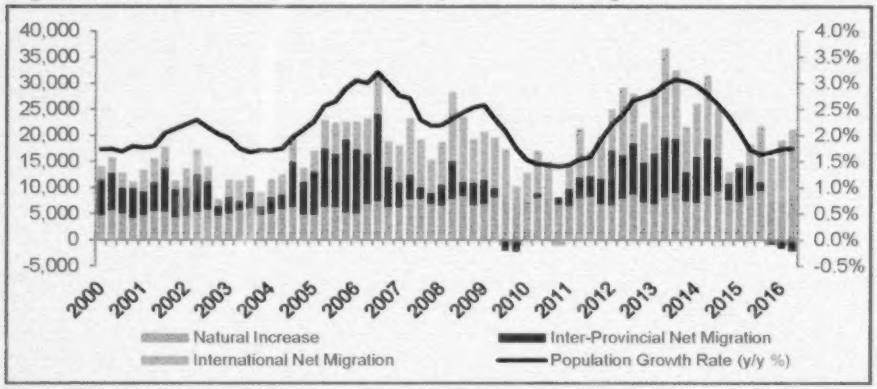
Net migration contributed just over half of the population increase this quarter, with natural increase accounting for 46%. Net migration gains were boosted by record-setting second quarter immigration, but have weakened since the oil price drop in late 2014. As overall migration weakens, the more stable component of natural increase takes on more prominence in supporting Alberta's population growth.

1 All data are from Statistics Canada. Estimates from 2007–2016 are based on the 2011 Census adjusted for net census undercount and incompletely enumerated Indian Reserves. All estimates are subject to revision.

Table 1: Population & Growth Rates Canada and Alberta

Population			Yearly Growth Rate		
1-Jul	Canada	Alberta	1-Jul	Canada	Alberta
2011	34,342,780	3,790,191	2011	0.99%	1.54%
2012	34,750,545	3,880,755	2012	1.19%	2.39%
2013	35,155,451	3,996,620	2013	1.17%	2.99%
2014	35,544,564	4,108,283	2014	1.11%	2.79%
2015	35,848,610	4,179,660	2015	0.86%	1.74%
2016	36,286,425	4,252,879	2016	1.22%	1.75%

Figure 1: Alberta Components of Population Change, 2nd Quarter



On an annual basis, Alberta led the country with 1.75%[2] in annual growth, over half a percentage point higher than the Canadian average (Table 1). In absolute numbers, Alberta added over 73,000 new residents; only Ontario added more (Table 2). Despite this large addition, annual census-year growth was similar to last year's rate, and was down over a percentage point from 2013 and 2014 (Figure 1).

Revisions

Population estimates and the components of growth are revised annually with the availability of recent updates to data sources, or additional data sources only available on an annual basis. This release made downward revisions to the Alberta population back to July 1, 2012; lower estimated net non-permanent residents (NPRs)

2 This growth represents year-over-year variation (July 1, 2015 to July 1, 2016).

Table 2: Population of Provinces/ Territories as of July 1, 2016 and Growth Rates since July 1, 2015

	Population	Growth Rate (y/y)
Canada	36,286,425	1.22%
NL	530,128	0.27%
PEI	148,649	1.30%
NS	949,501	0.65%
NB	756,780	0.33%
QC	8,326,089	0.81%
ON	13,982,984	1.35%
MB	1,318,128	1.71%
SK	1,150,632	1.62%
AB	4,252,879	1.75%
BC	4,751,612	1.25%
YT	37,492	0.26%
NWT	44,469	0.51%
NVT	37,082	1.51%

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were a key factor in this revision, although net interprovincial migration in 2014-15 was also lower than preliminary estimates indicated.

Migration

Over half of Alberta's growth this quarter was driven by migration, which added 10,302 new residents to the province. This was up slightly from the same quarter last year, but about half the level seen in 2014. Net international migration more than offset net interprovincial outflows.

Interprovincial migration

Alberta's economic conditions heavily influence its net interprovincial migration. The province continued to see net outflows for the third straight quarter, losing 2,165 people to other parts of the country (Table 4). However, Alberta did not see the largest interprovincial losses this quarter.

Most of the country experienced net outflows of interprovincial migrants. Quebec saw the largest net losses this quarter (-4,525), followed by Alberta, Manitoba (-1,964), Saskatchewan (-1,265), and New Brunswick (-974). Following the trend of the past three quarters, British Columbia and Ontario were the only two regions in the country to have sizeable net interprovincial migration gains (8,071 and 3,312, respectively) (Table 3).

For the ninth straight quarter, Alberta lost people to British Columbia (3,629) (Map 1). The number of interprovincial migrants that Alberta has been losing to its western neighbour has been increasing. Alberta saw a modest net gain of migrants from Quebec (655) and Manitoba (523) (Table 3).

Net International Migration

Net international migration was a major contributor to Alberta's growth this quarter. Record setting immigration levels in the second quarter compensated for continued net outflows of non permanent residents (NPRs). Alberta welcomed 12,467 net new residents from outside of Canada.

The second quarter of 2016 marked another quarterly immigration landings record for Alberta, with the province becoming home to 14,983 new permanent residents (Table 4). Alberta's share of Canadian immigrants also set a new second quarter record, at 17.4%. Only Ontario had a higher share of immigrants (36.7%).

In the 2016 census year, Canada welcomed 320,932 immigrants, the highest number of immigrants since the early 1900s. As a result, immigrant landings were up all across the country, with the provinces of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta setting new immigration landings records since this data series began in 1971. This census year is the first year where Alberta has received the second highest share of immigrants to Canada; Alberta took a record setting 17.9% of all Canadian immigrants this year, while Ontario took 37.3%.

For the seventh quarter in a row, Alberta experienced net outflows (1,633) of NPRs, although these flows were significantly lower than the outflows of the same quarter last year. Alberta was the only region this quarter to see net outflows, with Canada welcoming a net inflow of NPRs, and over half settling in Ontario. The net outflows have been reducing Alberta's stock of NPRs, which currently sits at around 80,000. This was down 2% from last quarter, with the losses slowing over the past two quarters.

Natural increase

In the second quarter of 2016, Alberta posted a natural increase of 8,644, the result of 14,808 births minus 6,164 deaths (Table 4). Over the census year, the province's population increased by an estimated 33,000 due to natural increase, or 0.8%. Alberta continues to have the highest natural growth rate of all the provinces, in part due to its relatively large cohort of young adults.

Population Age Structure

With a median age of 36.2 years, Alberta continues to be the youngest province. Roughly 12% of Alberta's population is aged 65 and older, compared with a Canadian average of 16%. Of the provinces, Alberta has the largest share of its population aged 15-64 years; 7 out of 10 Albertans are of working age, compared with 68% for the country as a whole.

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Map 1: Net Population Movement for Alberta April 1 to June 30, 2016

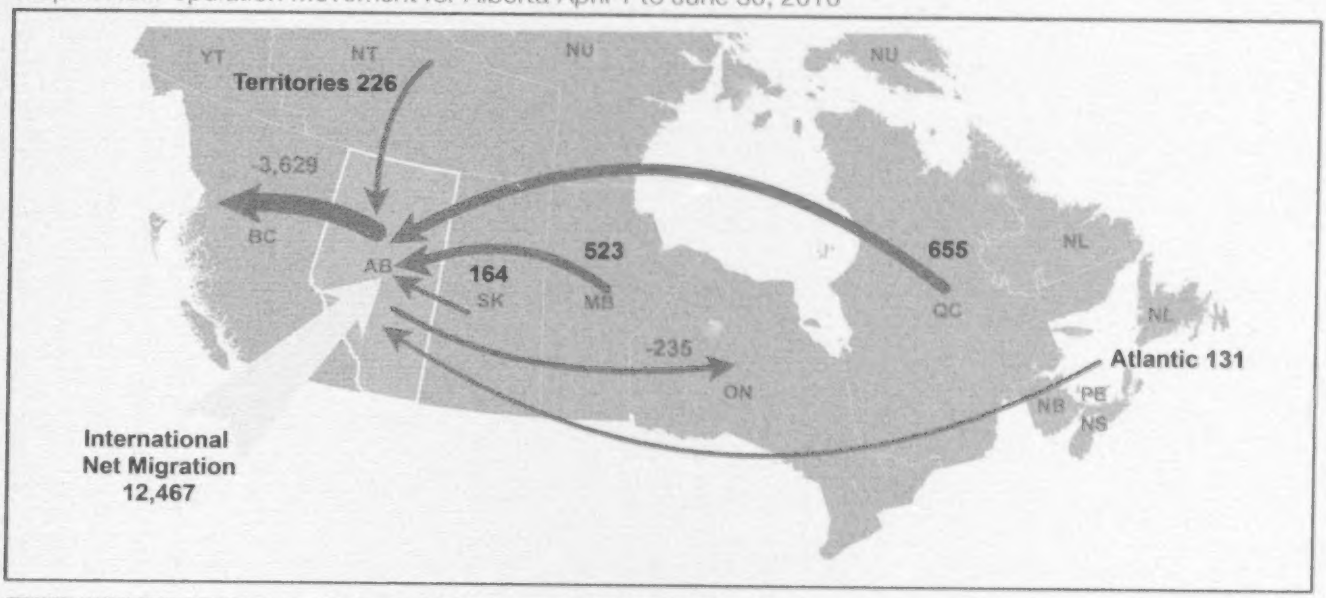

Table 3: Origin and Destination of Interprovincial Migrants April 1 to June 30, 2016

Origin \ Destination	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
NL	0	51	474	200	61	826	87	10	618	192	25	38	24
PEI	43	0	315	72	52	525	0	14	266	124	0	0	10
NS	311	121	0	671	275	1,933	100	91	1,165	705	40	45	8
NB	119	148	730	0	709	1,106	138	102	892	357	3	20	61
QC	218	48	180	455	0	7,261	144	115	1,594	1,194	45	39	33
ON	649	490	1,954	763	3,467	0	1,203	962	6,126	6,441	187	191	250
MB	97	13	142	98	203	1,673	0	619	1,384	1,636	5	16	29
SK	116	14	66	15	139	1,260	680	0	2,940	1,431	59	38	8
AB	900	179	951	780	939	6,361	861	2,776	0	9,978	94	139	44
BC	158	68	386	294	861	4,448	680	719	6,349	0	138	127	59
YT	9	11	27	30	17	212	8	9	121	148	0	11	0
NWT	12	7	45	27	19	141	27	32	377	122	75	0	10
NVT	30	0	48	6	59	249	23	52	5	30	5	29	0

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
IN	2,662	1,150	5,318	3,411	6,801	25,995	3,951	5,501	21,837	22,358	676	693	536
OUT	2,606	1,421	5,465	4,385	11,326	22,683	5,915	6,766	24,002	14,287	603	894	536
NET	56	-271	-147	-974	-4,525	3,312	-1,964	-1,265	-2,165	8,071	73	-201	0

Q2 2016	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
Outflow to AB	618	266	1165	892	1594	6126	1384	2940	0	6349	121	377	5
Inflow from AB	900	179	951	780	939	6361	861	2776	0	9978	94	139	44
Net Flow to AB	-282	87	214	112	655	-235	523	164	0	-3,629	27	238	-39

Table 4: Alberta Components of Growth by Quarter

Quarters in Census Year	Interprovincial Migration			International Migration						Total	Vital Events		Total
	In	Out	Net	Immigrants	Net Non-Permanent Residents	Emigrants	Net Temporary Emigrants	Returning Emigrants	Net	Total Net Migration	Births	Deaths	Sum of Components
2011-12													
Jul-Sep	22,147	18,189	3,958	8,970	-2,502	3,030	675	1,847	4,610	8,568	13,404	5,117	16,855
Oct-Dec	15,797	10,901	4,896	7,690	1,570	1,611	549	801	7,901	12,797	12,223	5,358	19,662
Jan-Mar	22,632	12,201	10,431	7,520	1,605	1,586	531	806	7,814	18,245	12,404	5,720	24,929
Apr-Jun	26,008	17,641	8,367	10,386	3,195	1,711	531	1,464	12,803	21,170	13,284	5,336	29,118
Total	86,584	58,932	27,652	34,566	3,868	7,938	2,286	4,918	33,128	60,780	51,315	21,531	90,564
2012-13													
Jul-Sep	25,552	15,767	9,785	9,086	1,862	2,843	660	2,020	9,465	19,250	14,058	5,274	28,034
Oct-Dec	15,730	8,026	7,704	9,103	-355	1,473	531	771	7,515	15,219	12,888	5,671	22,436
Jan-Mar	21,438	11,692	9,746	8,095	5,284	1,522	547	745	12,055	21,801	12,835	5,947	28,689
Apr-Jun	29,833	18,470	11,363	10,582	7,316	1,661	545	1,440	17,132	28,495	13,760	5,549	36,706
Total	92,553	53,955	38,598	36,866	14,107	7,499	2,283	4,976	46,167	84,765	53,541	22,441	115,865
2013-14													
Jul-Sep	25,511	15,277	10,234	9,156	4,752	2,499	647	2,382	13,144	23,378	14,591	5,487	32,482
Oct-Dec	16,387	10,900	5,487	8,806	1,092	1,570	540	830	8,618	14,105	13,401	5,897	21,609
Jan-Mar	22,290	13,522	8,768	10,351	1,326	1,798	548	805	10,136	18,904	13,336	6,176	26,064
Apr-Jun	31,613	20,720	10,893	12,753	210	1,784	550	1,469	12,098	22,991	14,278	5,761	31,508
Total	95,801	60,419	35,382	41,066	7,380	7,651	2,285	5,486	43,996	79,378	55,606	23,321	111,663
2014-15													
Jul-Sep	22,189	15,803	6,386	10,283	43	2,515	646	2,382	9,547	15,933	15,100	5,690	25,343
Oct-Dec	14,650	11,574	3,076	9,150	-5,580	1,580	541	830	2,279	5,355	13,824	6,114	13,065
Jan-Mar	22,849	16,367	6,482	8,203	-5,775	1,811	548	805	874	7,356	13,692	6,396	14,652
Apr-Jun	29,786	24,136	5,650	11,970	-7,049	1,797	550	1,469	4,043	9,693	14,588	5,964	18,317
Total	89,474	67,880	21,594	39,606	-18,361	7,703	2,285	5,486	16,743	38,337	57,204	24,164	71,377
2015-16													
Jul-Sep	21,440	19,832	1,608	14,172	-2,662	2,523	646	2,382	10,723	12,331	15,351	5,884	21,798
Oct-Dec	11,355	12,150	-795	12,872	-3,541	1,586	541	830	8,034	7,239	14,001	6,323	14,917
Jan-Mar	16,869	18,394	-1,525	15,357	-1,980	1,817	548	805	11,817	10,292	13,875	6,609	17,558
Apr-Jun	21,837	24,002	-2,165	14,983	-1,633	1,802	550	1,469	12,467	10,302	14,808	6,164	18,946
Total	71,501	74,378	-2,877	57,384	-9,816	7,728	2,285	5,486	43,041	40,164	58,035	24,980	73,219